Construction of New Railway Line between Dahanu Road and Nasik Road

3034. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received demands for construction of new Railway line between Dahanu Road station and Nasik Road station;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether any survey has been conducted by the Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Service of Calcutta Telephones

3035. SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the telephone subscribers of Chetla & Mahesh Dutt Lane areas under "479" exchange of Calcutta telephones are not getting proper service of their telephones due to overhead lines through poles or electric poles;

(b) whether some telephone lines in the above areas have been drawn through the existing electric poles confronting the subscribers to various risks;

(c) whether complaints of disruption of services have been on the rise from the subscribers;

(d) whether the Government propose to direct the authorities to take immediate action in the matter; and

(e) if so, the facts and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Some telephone lines have been supported on electric poles as the footpaths in the area are very narrow and it is difficult to erect new poles or lay underground cables there. Many a times the local residents also object to the digging of the lance for laying cables or for planting poles. However, the telephone wires which are duly insulated are drawn at a safe margin of distance from electric lines and with proper safety protections. Thus avoiding any risk to the users.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) For upgrading the network in the area a total of 1500 conductor Kilometer (CKM) cables have already been laid and it is planned to further lay 2000 CKM cables in the near future, to minimise overhead telephone lines in the area.

Medical Facilities at Howrah and Sealdah Railway Stations

3036. SHRI BALAI CHANDRA RAY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to improve medical facilities at Howrah and Sealdah Railway Stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Adequate provision exists on all Railway Stations to provide first aid medical facilities. For this purpose first aid boxes with prescribed medicines and dressing materials and a stretcher have been provided with station masters. Apart from this a list of doctors and Hospitals both Railway and Non-Railway situated near the station alongwith their telephone numbers and addresses is available with the Station Masters who can requisition their services in emergency.

Mobile Licence to Andhra Pradesh

3037. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government have been drawn to the new-item captioned "Bell Canada may turn deaf ear to Andhra Pradesh" appearing in the '*Economic Times*' dated February 15, 1997;

(b) if so, whether the Government have examined its contents;

(c) whether Department of Telecommunication has not given any extension of the order notification date;

(d) if so, the main reasons for not granting the extension after January 29, 1997; and

(e) the time by when final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.